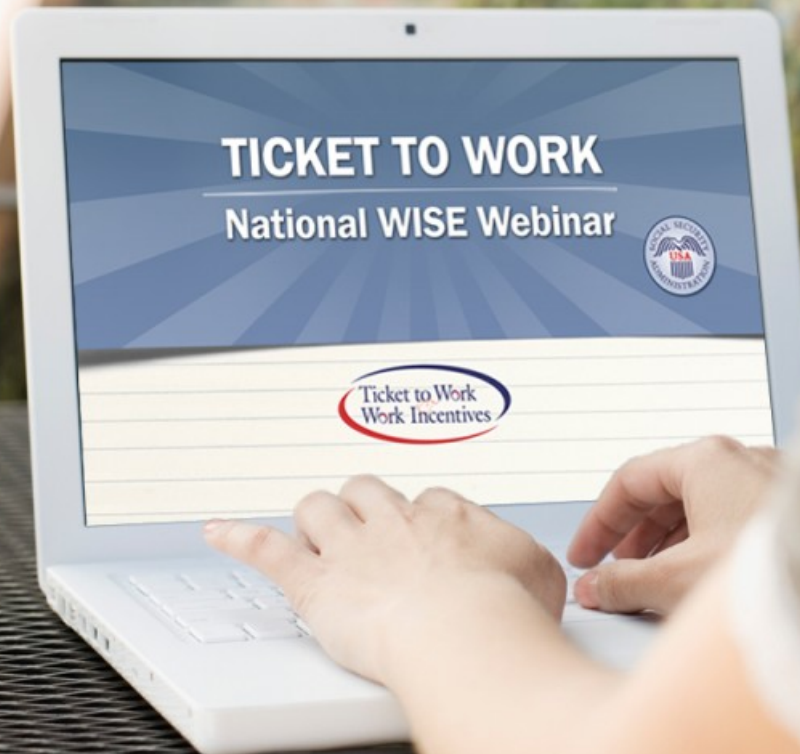


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TICKET TO WORK

**Free Support Services for People Who
Have a Disability and Are Ready to Work**

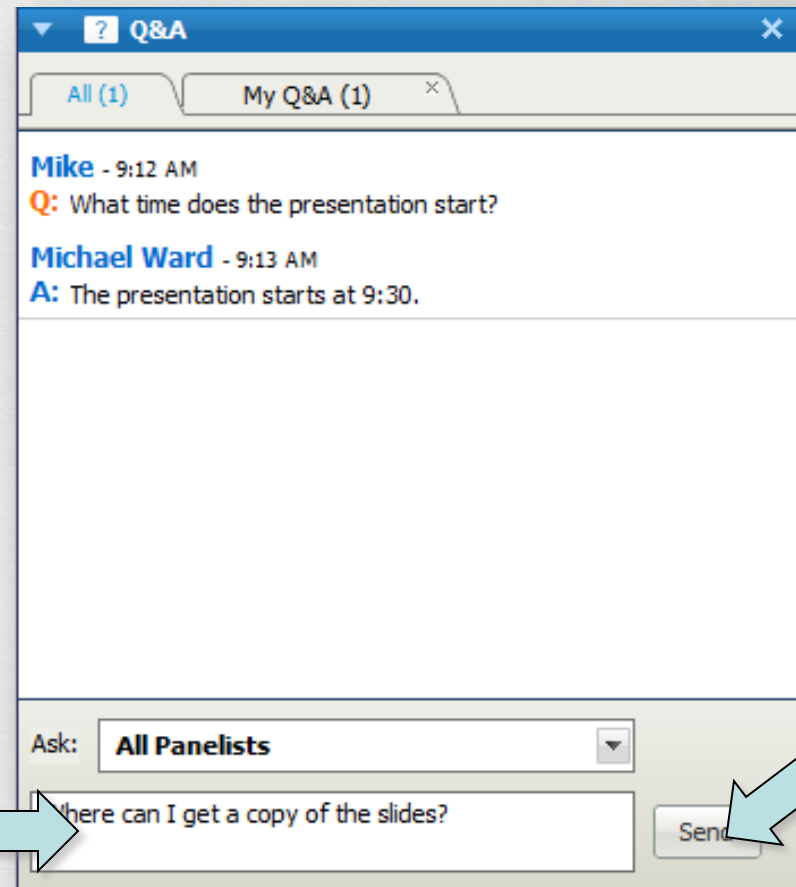
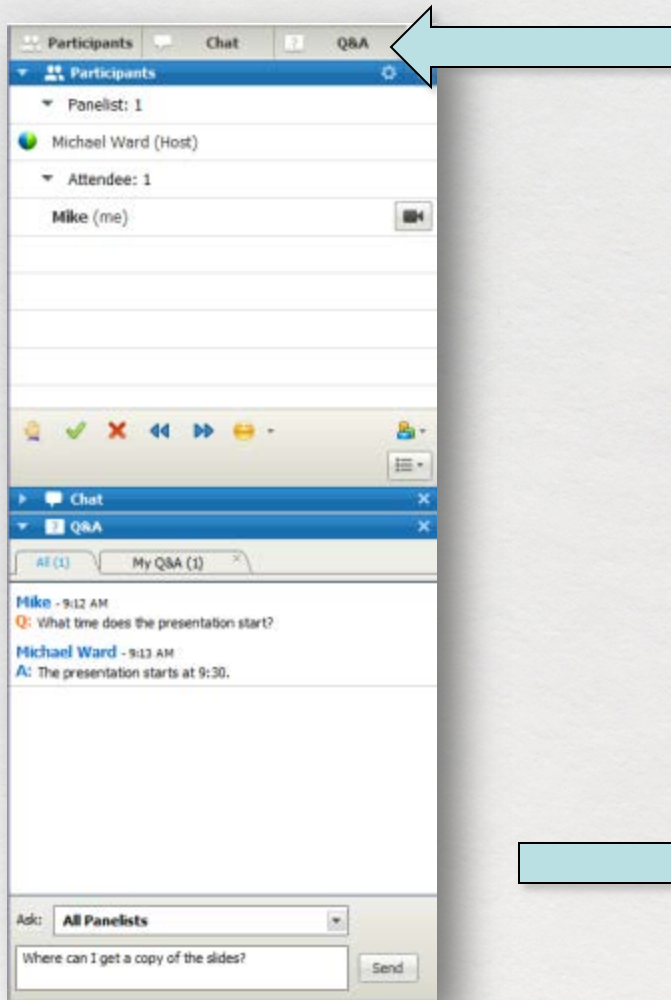
Work Incentives Seminar Event



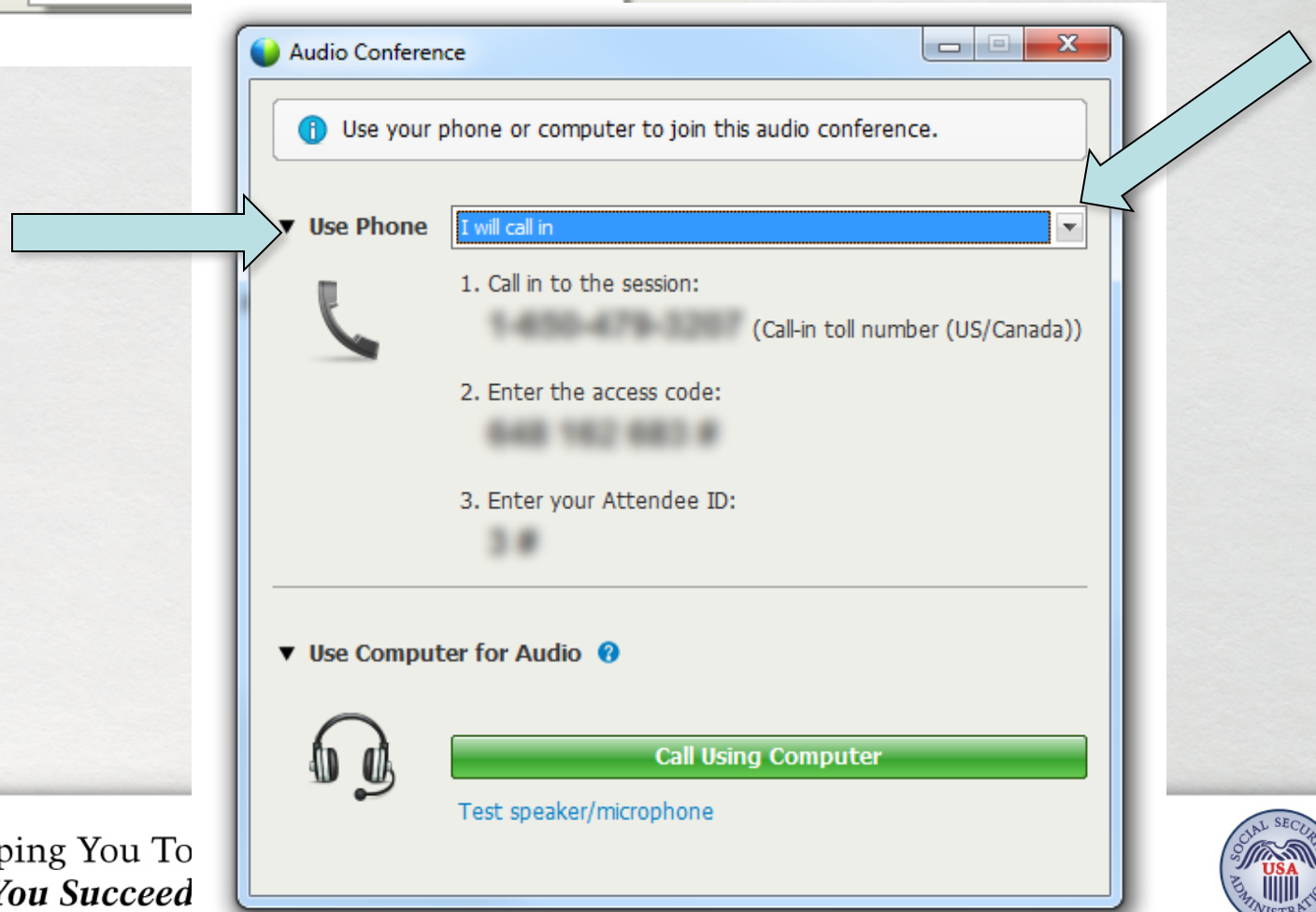
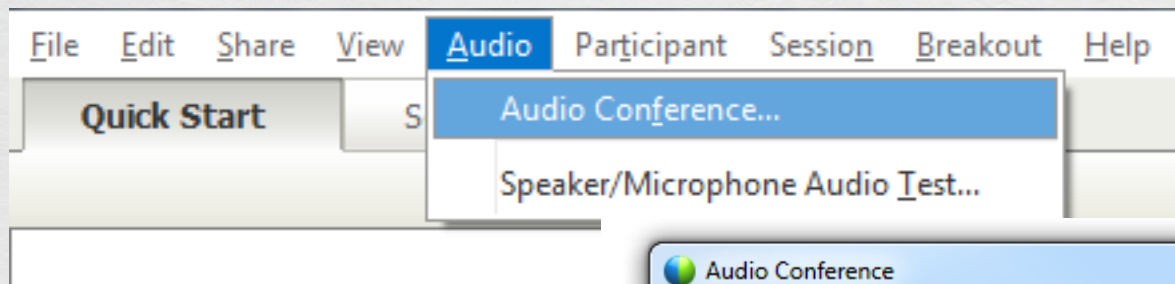
Date: Wednesday, February 26
Time: 3:00-4:30 pm EST



Adjusting Audio Mode



Audio and Questions Panels



Webinar Accessibility



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Webinar Accessibility

- Toll-Free number: 855-749-4750
 - Access code: 643-474-923
 - Closed captioning:
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/captions.cfm?activity_id=4647
- Webinar PowerPoint, accessible PDF, and text are located at the URL link you received in your WISE confirmation and access letter.



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Webinar Accessibility

- Webinar presentation, transcript, and audio recording will be available in approximately two weeks at:

www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-wise-webinars.cfm

- Webinar question & answer period

During the webinar, submit your questions on the webinar “chat” or to

webinars@choosework.net

Anytime after the webinar day, email your questions to support@chooseworkttw.net



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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introduction**
Ray Cebula, Employment & Disability Institute, Cornell University
- **The Ticket to Work Program**
Steven Stover, Project Independence
- **The Ticket to Work Program**
Steven Stover
- **Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects**
Steven Stover
- **Employment Network (EN)**
- **Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)**
- **Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)**
Aleyda Toruno, Disability Rights CA
- **Other Resources**
Ray Cebula
- **Questions and Answers**
Presentation Team



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Meet Ben!

An Introduction to Ticket to Work



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Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- **Meet new people**



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- Meet new people
- **Learn new skills**



Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)



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Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)

Supplemental
Security Income
(SSI)



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Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)

Supplemental
Security Income
(SSI)

Both SSDI and SSI =
Concurrent Benefits

Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#1

If I try to go to work, I will automatically lose my Medicare or Medicaid.



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Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#2

If I use my Ticket to go to work, Social Security will perform a medical review on me and I will lose my benefits.



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Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#3

If I go to work and then have to stop working, I will have to reapply for benefits all over again. It took me forever to be approved for benefits, and I cannot afford to have to wait that long again. So, I should not try to work.



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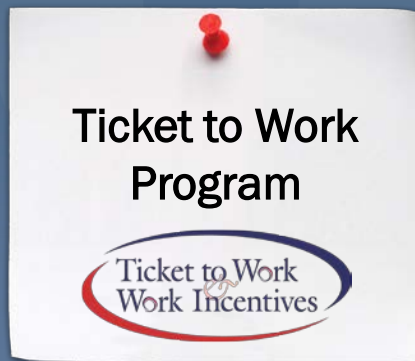
The Ticket to Work Program



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What Is Ticket to Work?



Ticket to Work is a **free** and **voluntary** program to assist SSDI and SSI beneficiaries who have a disability go to work, enter the workforce for the first time, or increase their current work hours.

Our representatives at the **Ticket to Work Help Line** can help you understand how the program can work for you. For more information, call **1-866-968-7842** (V), 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), or visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.



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When You're Ready To Work



The Ticket to Work Program



If You:	Ticket to Work & Work Incentives Can:
Are ready to earn more money!	Help you improve your earning potential
Need the personal fulfillment that comes from working...	Provide the assurance and stability you need to feel confident while you pursue employment
Want to be able to get benefits back if your job does not work out because of your disability...	Put you on the fast track back to receiving benefits
Are overwhelmed and do not know where to turn...	Connect you with the people, resources and services you need to develop a work plan



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A Real Ticket to Work Success Story!

Meet Rob

- 300 pounds lost, one kidney gained, and financial independence recovered!
- Ticket to Work helped Rob become an active member of the community again, earn a bigger paycheck, and transition back to stability.



Work Incentives



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What Are Work Incentives?



Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- **Improve the skills you already have**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- **Pursue your education**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- **Try different jobs**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- Try different jobs
- **Start a career**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:








- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- Try different jobs
- Start a career
- **Gain confidence**



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Common Work Incentives

 Trial Work Period (TWP) (SSDI recipients only)	The TWP allows you to test your ability to work for at least nine months. During your TWP, you will receive full SSDI benefits no matter how much you earn as long as your work activity is reported and you have a disabling impairment.
 Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE) (SSDI recipients only)	During the 36 months after the Trial Work Period, Social Security may restart your SSDI benefits without a new application, disability determination, or waiting period.
 Earned Income Exclusion (EIE) (SSS recipients only)	Less than half of your earnings are counted by Social Security as earned income, which may allow you to continue receiving an SSI check while working.
  Expedited Reinstatement (EXR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)	If your benefits stopped because of your earnings level, you can request to have your benefits reinstated without having to complete a new application. While Social Security determines if you qualify for benefits reinstatement, you are eligible to receive temporary benefits for up to six months.
  Protection from Medical Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)	Social Security will postpone a medical continuing disability review (CDR) while you are participating in the Ticket to Work program.

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects



What is a WIPA Project?



- Organizations **within your community** that provide **free** benefits counseling to help you make informed choices about work.
- There are **95** WIPA projects across the country.
- WIPA projects can help you decide if work is **right for you** and how work may impact your benefits.
- Once you begin working, WIPA projects can also provide information and support to **help you make a successful transition to financial independence.**

What Can a WIPA Project Do for You?



- WIPA projects offer a range of services to help you **understand your options** if you choose to pursue work.
- WIPA projects are staffed by **Community Work Incentive Coordinators** (CWICs) who provide in-depth counseling about working, earning more money, and how working may affect your benefits.

What Can a WIPA Project Do for You?



WIPA Projects can help you

- **Understand Work Incentives**, including the **Ticket to Work**, and how they apply to you
- **Decide** if the Ticket to Work Program is right for you
- **Understand** the potential benefits of employment as a person who receives disability benefits from Social Security while dispelling the myths about working

What Can a WIPA Project Do for You?



WIPA Projects can help you

- **Analyze** how work and earnings may impact your SSI, SSDI, health care, and other public benefits
- **Understand** the services provided by a state VR agency or an EN, and how they might fit best with your needs



Employment Network (EN)



What is an Employment Network (EN)?



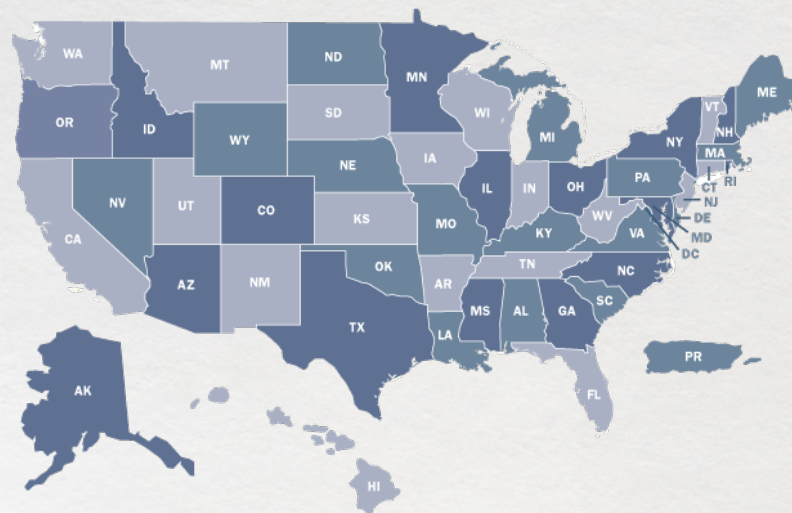
ENs are organizations and agencies, including your **state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency**, that entered into an agreement with Social Security to provide

- **Employment services**
- **Vocational rehabilitation services**
- and **other types of support services** to people receiving Social Security disability benefits with disabilities under the Ticket to Work program.

How to Find an Employment Network



- You can find service providers in your area who can help you!
- Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work
- Using the [Find Help Tool](#), enter your ZIP code and the service you are looking for or click on a state in the map or the state listed online.



Select an Employment Network That's Right For You



After you've located a few ENs near you, choose one that can answer your employment questions:

- **How many people have you helped** through the Ticket to Work program?
- **What kinds of companies do you work with** for job placements?
- **What kinds of jobs might be available** to me?
- **How often will we communicate** and meet?

When You Call the EN Office, Remember These Tips



- The EN should explain **how the Ticket program works** and **the services it provides**.
- The EN should ask about your **work goals** and **intentions about work**.
- The EN should talk with you about any **fears you may have**.
- You and the EN will develop an **Individual Work Plan** that includes your employment goals and the services the EN will provide to help you get there.

When You Visit an EN Office, Remember These Tips



- Your **signature on the Individual Work Plan** assigns your Ticket to the EN.
- The EN may have some other routine forms for you to sign allowing it to work with you.
- You can **un-assign your Ticket at any time** if you change your mind or decide the EN is not a good match.
- Social Security **postpones your Continuing Disability Reviews** (CDRs) as long as you are making timely progress towards employment.

Examples of EN Services



- **Résumé development** and advice on how to fill out a good application
- **Interview skills and tips** on how to explain long absences from work without disclosing your disability
- **Job accommodation information** and resources
- **Tax incentive information**
- **Referrals to other resources** in your area

Examples of EN Services



- **Job leads and information on employers** who are hiring, job fairs, recruiting events, etc.
- **Access to resource centers** -- computers, internet, email, phones, and fax machines
- **Job development** on your behalf
- **Referrals to other organizations** that can help you
- Continue to provide you services through the Ticket after you are finished working with Vocational Rehabilitation

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services



What is a State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency?



- State VR can help you if you want to **return to work** but need more significant services before you can start.
- VR can help you get **ready to work**, and, if necessary, you can then find an EN who can help you **keep the job** and **make more**.

Ticket to Work and State (VR) Agency Services



When you use your Ticket for VR services:

- If you receive Social Security benefits because of your disability, you are **automatically eligible for VR services**.
- You and your VR counselor develop an **employment plan**.
- Your **Ticket is assigned to your VR** when you and your counselor sign your employment plan.
- Social Security will **postpone your Continuing Disability Reviews** (CDRs) as long as you are making timely progress towards employment.

Ticket to Work and State (VR) Agency Services



When you begin to work using your Ticket with a state VR agency:

- You and your counselor discuss the opportunity to have an EN provide employment supports when your VR services end.
- When VR “closes” your case, you can use your Ticket with an EN for follow-on employment supports and services.

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)



Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)



PABSS services are:

- Located throughout **the States, territories, U.S. territories, and a PABSS for the Tribal Nations**
- Designed to help SSI and SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities **remove obstacles preventing them from working**
- **Free** to everyone that receives a Social Security benefit or Medicare/Medicaid based on disability benefits

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)



PABSS assists beneficiaries by:

- **Advocating** for vocational services from ENs or VR agencies
- **Providing** information, referrals, and advocacy related to benefits
- Assisting beneficiaries to **remove barriers** to work
- Addressing **overpayment** issues related to employment

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)



PABSS assists beneficiaries by:

- **Protecting** beneficiaries with representative payees
- Obtaining **special education and transition services**
- **Understanding** issues with disability benefits and work incentives for people who are already entitled to benefits
- Protecting beneficiaries' rights regarding **conditions of employment**

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)



PABSS assists beneficiaries by:

- **Obtaining** vocational rehabilitation and employment preparation services and supports
- Understanding and protecting rights, responsibilities, and reasonable accommodations under the **Americans with Disabilities Act**
- Understanding rights in respect to **wage and hour** issues
- Protecting rights to **transportation** related to employment
- Protecting access to **housing assistance** related to employment

Other Resources

Ray Cebula



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When You're Ready To Work



Building your Employment Team is the best way to begin. You have options to help you get started:

- **Speak with an expert** at our Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).
- **Learn more about Ticket to Work**, read our blog, and view, listen, or read real success stories at www.socialsecurity.gov/work.
- **Find an Employment Network** (EN) that meets your needs or work with your state VR agency.
- **Stay connected to your Employment Team** (WIPA, PABSS, EN, or VR) as you explore your work options.

Where to Get More Information

Visit: www.socialsecurity.gov/work to find your local Employment Network and other Ticket to Work and Work Incentives information.

Call:

Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842 (V)
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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Questions?



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Ticket to Work Help Line: 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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